

639 DIVISION AVENUE (House)
Jeannette
Westmoreland County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-6110

HABS
PA
65-JEAN,
44-

PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

ADDENDUM TO:
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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

639 DIVISION AVENUE (HOUSE)

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- LOCATION: 639 Division Avenue, Jeannette, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania
- SIGNIFICANCE: A high concentration of window, tableware, bottle and specialty glass plants distinguished Jeannette as "The Glass City" early in its history. Significant housing stock consists of company-built row and detached double houses, and several privately constructed dwellings.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Johnstown resident J.J. Strayer initially purchased this lot, but it passed through the hands of at least five other owners including local hotelkeeper Baptist Monier before the house was erected in 1911. Apparently built by Natale Montoni of Jeannette, the improved property was sold twice during 1911. The last sale was to a glass blower named William J. Delvitto. Members of the Delvitto family held title to the house until 1923, and the following year, the intervening owner sold the property to Ignatz and Agnes Antoniak. The house remains in the Antoniak family.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

One of only two single-story houses in the neighborhood, this simple gable front cottage appears as a diminutive of its neighbor. Stone sills and lintels accent the brick veneer. The stone foundation steps on either side of the house as the site slopes toward the alley, and the basement level is full height to the rear yard. Though the wood frame and concrete front porch varies in appearance from the rest of the house, a porch matching this outline appears on the earliest map from 1916.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Insurance Maps of Jeannette, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1916, 1925.

Deed Books. Recorder of Deeds, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, 228/105, 265/87, 383/486, 403/535, 459/244, 459/246, 497/548, 498/574, 562/272, 757/118, 799/32.

City Directories, 1897, 1913, 1923, 1928, 1948, 1960.

Tax Assessment Books. Westmoreland County Tax Assessment Office, Westmoreland County Courthouse, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

In February 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HABS and HAER undertook a comprehensive documentation of Jeannette, documenting industries, housing and cultural institutions.